

TRANSIENT LODGING TAX INFORMATION

What is the Transient Lodging Tax? This is a tax on any person who, for a period of not more than 30 consecutive days, either at his own expense or at that of another, obtains lodging at any hotel, motel, inn, tourist home, rooming house or other place of lodging within the city.

Who collects the Transient Lodging Tax? Every provider of lodging with respect to which a tax is levied under this article shall collect the amount of tax imposed under this article from the purchaser on whom such tax is levied at the time payment for such lodging becomes due and payable, whether payment is to be made in cash or on credit, by means of a credit card or otherwise. The amount of tax owed by the purchaser shall be added to the cost of the lodging by the seller, who shall pay the taxes collected to the city as provided in this article. Taxes collected by the seller shall be held in trust by the seller until remitted to the city.

Due Date: Payment must be postmarked by the 30th day of the month following the month in which the tax is collected to avoid penalties. Payments postmarked on or before the 20th of the month following the month the tax is collected may take a discount of 3% of the tax amount.

Tax Rate: Eight percent (8%) of the total amount paid for lodging by any transient as defined in Salem City Code 82-136.

Penalties for Late Filing: A penalty in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the tax amount due will be added for the first month the taxes are past due, and five percent (5%) for each month thereafter, up to a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the taxes collected but not remitted or \$10 whichever is greater provided the amount of the penalty does not exceed the amount of the tax. Interest will also accrue monthly, beginning once the filing is 30 days delinquent, at a rate of 10% per year.

Failure to Pay or Violation of Code: Any person violating or failing to comply with any provision of the Code governing this tax, shall be guilty of a Class 3 Misdemeanor. Conviction of such violation shall not relieve such person from the payment, collection, or remittance of the Admissions Tax. Collecting, but failing to remit this tax shall constitute embezzlement per 18.2-111 of the Code of Virginia.

Monthly Remittance Procedures: Please remit tax accompanied by the [Transient Lodging tax remittance form](#) to:

Commissioner of the Revenue
P O Box 0869
Salem, VA 24153